



# MANSA

Newsletter Number 17 -- Spring 1998

## Tereba Togola Appointed Mali's National Director of Arts

In Bamako, March 5, 1998 it was announced that Dr. TEREBA TOGOLA had been appointed NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF ARTS. This highly prestigious post manages all cultural efforts and includes a staff of hundreds at such governmental entities as the National Museum, l'Institut des Sciences Humaines, all cultural missions, the National Institute of Arts, and the North Korean-built Palace of Culture.

Dr. Togola, former student of Susan and Roderick McIntosh of Rice University, is the first American-trained professional appointed by President Alfa Konaré to occupy a substantive post.

## International Conference on Mande Studies Serrekunda, Gambia (Up-date)

Dates of conference: 12-19 June, 1998

Location: Senegambia Beach Hotel, Serrekunda, The Gambia

### SPECIAL NOTE TO PARTICIPANTS:

To participate, your MANSA membership dues must be up-to-date (check your newsletter mailing label). As was the case with the conference in Leiden, we will be charging a registration fee of U.S.\$25.00 per person, to help defray the expenses of the conference. In addition to that we are asking a donation of \$5.00 apiece to help pay musicians at the concert being organized and mostly paid for by Lucy Duran (see below). You may submit this payment totalling \$30.00 before leaving for The Gambia, or pay by check in Serrekunda at the beginning of the conference (make your check out to MANSA).

### Conference Theme:

**HISTORICAL MOMENTS AND SOCIAL  
IDIOSYNCRACIES: CULTURE, AGENCY AND  
CAUSALITY IN THE MANDE WORLD**

Editor's note: Some participants would like their paper to be on a panel other than what was listed in the last newsletter. There are in fact an unusual number of paper topics for this conference that would fit on more than one panel. Some panels were already full; others drew more papers than could be fitted onto them, so some papers have been placed where they would fill out other panels that were reasonably close topically but short of presenters. In any case, it is intended that no panels will run concurrently, which means it is possible for each presentation to be heard by everyone attending.

## CHANGING FRONTIERS: MIGRATORY MOVEMENTS OF MANDE PEOPLES AND THEIR NEIGHBORS

Chair: Mirjam de Bruijn, Leiden University  
Papers:

Edda Fields, University of Pennsylvania  
"Migration, Islam, and Rice Cultivation: Elements in the History of Baga-Mande Relations"

Ariane DeLuz, Laboratoire d'Anthropologie  
Sociologique, Paris

"Is There a Model of Malinke Penetration in the Mande World (Côte d'Ivoire)?"

Allen Howard, Rutgers University

"Mande- and Fula-speakers in the Transborder Trade Between Guinea and Sierra Leone, Late 19th/Early 20th Centuries"

Mirjam de Bruijn, Leiden University and Han van Dijk, Wageningen University

"Fulbe Travels into Mande: The Influence of Mobility on a Culture"

Bogodo Obarè and Oumarou Banni Guéné,  
Université Nationale du Bénin

"Linguistic, Ethnoarchaeological and Historical Evidence on the Boo/Boko Mande Subgroup Settlement in Beninois Borgu: Preliminary Considerations"

Dolores Koenig, American University with Ticman Diarra and Moussa Sow

"Contemporary Agricultural Migration and Settlement: Aspects of Inter-Ethnic Relations"

DAVID C. CONRAD, *President*, State University of New York-Oswego

BARBARA E. FRANK, *Vice President*, State University of New York-Stony Brook

STEPHEN WOOTEN, *Secretary-Treasurer*, University of California-Los Angeles

### Advisory Board

Alpha Bah, College of Charleston

ARIANE DELUZ, Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociologique

MAMADOU DIAWARA, Universität Bayreuth

LANSINE KABA, University of Illinois-Chicago

PETER MARK, Wesleyan University

TEREBA TOGOLA, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Bamako



THE ANCIENT MANDE LANDSCAPE:  
CLIMATE CHANGE AND HUMAN RESPONSE

Chair: Roderick McIntosh, Rice University

Papers:

Hamady Bokoum, IFAN, Dakar

"Les rapports entre la métallurgie et l'environnement dans la Moyenne Vallée du Sénégal"

Roderick McIntosh, Rice University

"Chasing Dunjugu Over the Mande Landscape: Making Sense of Prehistoric and Historic Climate Change"

Tereba Togola, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Bamako

"Les peuples Mande face aux adversités du climat"

Robert Vernet, Université de Nouakchott

"Évolution du peuplement et glissement des isohyètes à la fin de la préhistoire et au début de l'histoire en Afrique de l'Ouest sahélienne"

Discussant: Joseph Tainter, U.S. Forest Service

PRE-1700 MANDE AND LUSO-AFRICAN  
CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS  
ON THE ATLANTIC COAST

Chair: Peter Mark, Wesleyan University

Papers:

Peter Mark, Wesleyan University

"Mande-Portuguese Relations and Cultural Interaction Before 1700"

Martin Klein, University of Toronto

"Ethnic Pluralism and Homogeneity in the Western Sudan: Saalum, Segu, Wasulu"

Donald Wright, SUNY-Cortland

"Pan-Africanism with 'the Pinch of Famine' (or Debt Peonage on Both Sides of the Atlantic): The Gambian Mandinka and Their African-American Relatives in World Economy"

Stephan Bühnen, Bremen University

"Exchange and Society in Precolonial Southern Gambia"

José da Silva Horta, Lisbon University

"Pre-1700 Mande and Luso-African Cultural and Economic Relations on the Atlantic Coast"

GENDER IN MANDE STUDIES INTO THE 21ST  
CENTURY Part I

Chair: Barbara Hoffman, Cleveland State University

Papers:

Saskia Brand, University of Leiden

"Musoya: Gender Discourse Interpreted"

Lucy Duran, SOAS, University of London

"Musoya and the Impact of the Music of Oumou Sangaré"

Barbara Frank, SUNY-Stony Brook

"Who Made the Djénne Terra-Cottas?: Gender, Craft Specialization and Mande Art History"

Maria Grosz-Ngate, Cornell University

"Community and Gender in Sana (Mali)"

GENDER IN MANDE STUDIES INTO THE 21ST  
CENTURY Part II

Chair: Barbara Hoffman, Cleveland State University

Papers:

Eugenia Herbert, Mount Holyoke College  
"Gender and Technology in Mande Societies"

Rosa de Jorio, University of North Florida

"Le Bara Dance and Women's Political Participation: A View From Segu"

"Kassim Kone, SUNY-Cortland

"Male and Female in the Manden: Covert and Overt Rules in Excision"

Barbara Hoffman, Cleveland State University

"Genderizing Mande Studies: A View From Jeliya"

MATERIAL AND PERFORMANCE ARTS  
AMONG THE MANDE AND THEIR NEIGHBORS

Chair: Barbara Frank, SUNY-Stony Brook

Papers:

Mary Jo Arnoldi, Smithsonian Institution

"Beautifying Bamako's Streets: New Public Sculpture in Mali"

Patrick McNaughton, Indiana University

"Innovation and Restraint in Mande Performance Aesthetics"

Kirsten Langeveld, University of Amsterdam

"The *kankuran* Mask in Gender Perspective: An Analysis of Myth and Female Ritual"

Stephen Wooten, University of California--Los Angeles

"Expressive Agri/Culture: Headresses, Hoes, and Heritage on the Mande Plateau"

JELIYA AND MANDE ORAL TRADITION

Chair: Lilyan Kesteloot, IFAN, Université de Dakar

Papers:

Seydou Camara, ISH Bamako

"La Geste de Nankomanjan d'Après Fode Berete de Kangaba"

Lilyan Kesteloot, IFAN, Université de Dakar

"Le mythe du Chef dans les épopées sahéliennes"

"Gérard Dumestre, INALCO, Paris

"Chroniques amoureuses au Mali"

Katrin Pfeiffer, University of Hamburg

"Mnemonic Function of Songs in Mandinka-Taaling"

Stephen Belcher, Pennsylvania State University

"A Synoptic View of the Niore Region's Histories"

THE POLITICS OF DECENTRALIZATION AMONG  
THE MANDE AND THEIR NEIGHBORS

Co-chairs: Clemens Zobel, Centre d'Etudes Africaines, EHESS and Claude Fay, Centre d'Etudes Africaines

Papers:

Jan Jansen, Leiden University

"Inviting the Trojan Horse?: Local Traditions in Mali's Politics of Decentralization"

Clemens Zobel, Centre d'Études Africaines EHESS Paris

"Bringing Governance Back Home: Malian

Decentralization and Local Politics in the Mande Hills"

Michele LeClerc-Olive, CNRS Lille

"Penser la légitimité de la décentralisation administrative au Mali en zone rurale: approche pragmatique et conceptuelle"



Claude Fay, Centre d'Études Africaines, Centre d'Études Africaines EHESS, Paris  
 "Entre tradition, démocratie et développement: la décentralisation au Maasina (Mali)"  
 Catherine Quinimal, Centre d'Études Africaines EHESS, Paris  
 "Les immigrés de la région de Kayes et la politique de décentralization"  
 Andreas Massing, GTZ Projets Foyers Ameliores, Bamako  
 "Decentralization: Legal Theory and Practice in Burkina Faso, Ghana and Mali"

#### CONSTRUCTIONS OF POLITICAL AND CULTURAL IDENTITY AMONG THE MANDE AND THEIR NEIGHBORS Part I

Co-chairs: David Conrad, SUNY-Oswego and Dorothea Schulz, Freie Universität Berlin  
 Papers:  
 Alice Bellagamba, Università degli Studi di Torino  
 "The Meaning of *karafoo*: Representations of Power and Personal Entrustment by Mandinka Elders of Bansang (Fuladu West), The Gambia"  
 Ferdinand de Jong, Amsterdam School for Social Science Research  
 "The *Kankurang* Masquerade: Performing Against Ethnic Others and the Senegalese State"  
 Cornelia Giesing, INEP, Bissau  
 "Farim Sankulle and the Sonko of Tiliji"  
 David Conrad, SUNY-Oswego  
 "Fakoli's Bonnet and other *basiw*: Identifying Mande Power Sources"

#### CONSTRUCTIONS OF POLITICAL AND CULTURAL IDENTITY AMONG THE MANDE AND THEIR NEIGHBORS Part II

Co-chairs: David Conrad, SUNY-Oswego and Dorothea Schulz, Freie Universität Berlin  
 Marloes Janson, CNWS Leiden  
 "The 'Heroines' of Manding Culture: The Position, Roles, and Gender Identity of *jelimusoolu* in Eastern Gambia"  
 Mohamed Saïdou N'Daou, Chicago State University  
 "Politique de Peuplement et Construction de l'Identité des Mikhifore (Boke, Guinea)"  
 Marie Nathalie LeBlanc, Concordia University  
 "From Ethnicity to Islam: Processes of Identification Amongst Muslim Youth in Bouaké Côte d'Ivoire"  
 Lamissa Bangali, ENAM, Ouagadougou  
 "The Interactions of Fonon and Tuntun-smiths with Farmers in Senufo-land, Burkina Faso: Re-defining the 'Ethnic Group' Concept in West Africa"

#### LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE IN MANDEN

Chair: Valentin Vydrine, European University at St. Petersburg  
 Papers:  
 Valentin Vydrine, European University at St. Petersburg  
 "Manding Lexicography Today"

Paul Folmer, Leiden University  
 "Stories About Supernatural Categories in Wuli: *jalangoli*, Devils and Sorcerers"

Ralph Austen, University of Chicago  
 "Coming of Age Through Colonial Education: African Autobiography as Hybrid Bildungsroman (The Case of Camara Laye)"

Ingse Skattum, University of Oslo  
 "Education bilingue: français et bambara: l'école fondamentale au Mali"

#### RELIGION AND POLITICS AMONG THE MANDE AND THEIR NEIGHBORS

Chair: Andrew Clark, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Papers:

David Skinner, University of Santa Clara  
 "The Late 19th-Century Spiritual and Military Movement of Fode Kaba"

Eduardo Costa Dias, Centro de Estudos Africanos, Lisbon

"Les mandingues de l'ancien Kaabu et le savoir islamique"

Andrew F. Clark, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

"Mamadou Lamine Drame's Revolt and the Soninke of Eastern Senegambia in the Late Nineteenth Century: A Reinterpretation"

Yacouba Konate, Université Nationale de Côte d'Ivoire

"La mort mineure: Notes autour de la mort chez des Mande musulmans en Côte d'Ivoire"

Kalala Ngalamulume, Central Washington University

"West African Itinerant Healers and the Commoditization of Healing Power in Saint-Louis, Senegal: 1850-1914"

Discussant: Nehemia Levtzion

#### AGENCY IN MANDE MUSIC AND MEDIA

Chair: Lucy Duran, SOAS, University of London

Papers:

Musa Hakim, SUNY-Buffalo

"Tradition and Change in the Context of Manding Jali Music: Reflections from Historiography and Discography"

Christine Nimaga Ceesay, Radio Gambia  
 "Agency in Mandinka Music"

Liam Buckley, University of Virginia  
 "Documentary Media and Colonial World Presence in The Gambia"

John Kertzer, University of Washington and SOAS  
 "Kora Redefined: Collaboration and Constraint in the International Music Market"

Manya Jordans, CNWS Leiden

"Maneuvering in Mande Music: Young Griots in Bamako"

Lucy Duran, SOAS University of London  
 "Refusing the Mother-tune Way: Recent Trends for Mandinka Kora Styles in Bamako's Bajourou Guitar Music"



### **Are Your Writings on Africa IN Africa? (A Reminder to MANSA Members)**

Does that literate research assistant who helped you with your research back in Mali (or Senegal, etc.) have a copy of the book? Holding the Fourth International Conference on Mande Studies in West Africa offers an opportunity for many Mande scholars to catch up on distribution of their most recent publications. People who are attending can take books, dissertation-copies and offprints with them, and those who are not will find it easier than usual to send books, dissertations and offprints with their colleagues. After the conference, many MANSA members will be fanning out across the Mande landscape to Mali, Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, Burkina Faso. If you have finished a writing project that has not yet been distributed back in the Mande homeland, please take this opportunity to get that done. --Editor

### **Music and Memories of Kela: A Call for Contributions for A Song Collection and Festschrift (Jan Jansen)**

In the past decades many of us have worked in Kela or with the Kela jeli ngaraw in Bamako. I am personally aware of the following who have done research with Kela jeliw (in alphabetical order): Charles Bird, Seydou Camara, Eric Charry, David Conrad, Lucy Duran, Tom Hale, Barbara Hoffman, John Johnson, Cherif Keita, Robert Newton, and Clemens Zobel.

Recordings have been made by many of these scholars. And long before the MANSA researchers invaded Kela, others had made musical recordings. Eric Charry recently located rare 1949 recordings in an American archive (see MANSA Newsletter 36, p. 7).

As some of you may know, the small Dutch CD company, PAN-Records, has published two CDs with field recordings I made in Kela in the period 1989-96. This material gives an impression of traditional praise songs (*fasaw*) and popular songs in the interpretation by the famous jeliw from Kela, among them the late Kelabala, Yamudu, and Siramori. A few months ago, I proposed to Bernard Kleikamp, who actually "is" PAN Records, to add to the two CDs one with historical recordings in combination with a book which provides insights into the importance of Kela and the research that has been done there. After reflecting on the proposal for a few months, Kleikamp agreed to the project, IF quality of the recordings was "acceptable" (Kleikamp sometimes even publishes mono field recordings -- he is not a sound freak; the cultural value and content of the liner notes are always his main concern).

I know that Bird made recordings in Kela in 1968 and 1972. Johnson and Conrad also made recordings in the seventies. These recordings were deposited in the Indiana University Archives of Traditional Music. Many of us have made recordings in the 1980s and 1990s.

Moreover, we have the famous 1949 recording. I have not yet learned if the archives are willing to put the recordings on a CD, but expect that they are interested in the project.

My question is twofold:

- 1) Do any of you know who else made recordings with jeliw from Kela? (I am especially interested to know if any recordings were made during the 1950s and early 1960s.)
- 2) Who would like to put a recording on this CD and/or write an article on the Kela griots or on experiences in Kela or with the Kela griots?

The aim of the book is to make a fine collection of memories of Kela and its jeliw. Every contribution is welcome, including diary notes, but there is also room for scholarly analysis. In particular life stories of Kela griots and translations of song texts will be appreciated. Pictures are welcome. The book will be published in combination with the CD.

Ideally, during the MANSA conference in Banjul I would like to assemble around the table all the people who worked with the Kela jeliw in order to work out the idea of the Festschrift for Kela. I realize, however, that they will not all be attending. Therefore, I have submitted this pre-announcement of the Kela project MANSA Newlsetter.

### **Up-Date on MANSA Members' Activities**

LAURA ARNTSON will leave Seattle in June for a Peace Corps tour in Togo.

ABDOULIE BAYO has voluntarily retired from the National Museum in Banjul and has opened a new museum at Tanji, 20 km from Banjul, which he hopes will be visited by MANSA members during the conference.

SEYDOU CAMARA (ISH Bamako) submitted a paper to MANSA and was awarded travel funds from the government of The Netherlands for travel to the Fourth International Conference on Mande Studies.

ERIC CHARRY (University of North Carolina-Greensboro) has accepted a new teaching position at Wesleyan University.

ROSA DE JORIO is teaching in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, & Criminal Justice, University of North Florida.

TIEMAN DIARRA (ISH, Bamako) is one of a team of six African anthropologists/sociologists receiving honorable mention from the Praxis Award Committee during the AAA meetings in November 1997 in Washington, DC. Presented every two years by the Washington Association of Professional Anthropologists (WAPA), the Praxis Award recognizes excellence in anthropological practice.

Tieman Diarra's project was part of an international effort to control the disease onchocerciasis (caused by the black fly) that has affected approximately 18 million people throughout much of tropical Africa.



With the aid of the World Health Organization (WHO) Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR), and supported by the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, Diarra's team worked with physicians and their ministries of health to design workable programs to distribute the drug ivermectin (Mectizan). Country studies were carried out in Nigeria, Cameroon, Uganda, Ghana, and Mali.

MAMADOU DIAWARA (Bayreuth University) is on a project in Mali with the a German agency.

LUCY DURAN (SOAS, University of London), at the invitation of the Frente Polisario, will attend a music festival at Tinduff in April.

BARBARA FRANK (SUNY-Stony Brook) has been promoted to Associate Professor and awarded tenure.

JULIANNE FREEMAN is teaching in the Department of Anthropology, Northern Kentucky University.

ALMA GOTTLIEB is to be congratulated for winning a Guggenheim Fellowship for the book project "The Afterlife is Where We Come From: West African Infant Care Practices (Côte d'Ivoire)."

MARIA GROSZ-NGATE has become Assistant Director in the Center for African Studies, University of Florida

BARBARA HOFFMAN (Cleveland State University) is on a Fulbright teaching and research fellowship, teaching graduate anthropology courses at the University of Nairobi and doing research in Maasai communities on culture change, especially gender roles and Ideologies.

YACOUBA KONATE (Université Nationale, Abidjan) submitted a paper to MANSA and was awarded travel funds from the government of The Netherlands for travel to the Fourth International Conference on Mande Studies.

KASSIM KONE is teaching in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, SUNY-Cortland.

DJIBRIL TAMSIR NIANE will be in the U.S. for several weeks from the middle of May, visiting Tufts University where he is collaborating on a CD ROM project preparing a visual production of a Sunjata performance for African literature in American classrooms. He's interested in some paid lecture gigs while here, so if you want to invite him to speak, e-mail Parker James: [hjames@emerald.tufts.edu](mailto:hjames@emerald.tufts.edu)

DOROTHEA SCHULZ has left the Frobenius Institut in Frankfurt and accepted a position at the Freie Universität Berlin's Institut für Ethnologie.

PATIENCE SONKO-GODWIN is hoping to come to the United States in July for the summer holidays, and she asks if there any possibility of having a part-time lecture job in any institution in the U.S. She would like addresses of institutions that could render some assistance to her. Among her publications is *Leaders of the Senegambia Region: Reactions to European Infiltration 19th-20th Centuries* Banjul: Sunrise Publishers Ltd. 1995. Her address: National Council for Arts and Culture, Research and Documentation Division, P.M.B. 151, Banjul, The Gambia (Fax: 220-226822).

## Lucy Duran Reports on the Griots' Niarela Celebration (jeli nyenaje) in Bamako

In February I went to Mali to assist a British TV company with filming the jeli community's festivities in honour of the founding families of Bamako, and thought MANSA members might be interested in hearing about it.

After the end of Ramadan, Bakari Soumano, Mali's *jelikuntigi*, hosted a celebration for Niarela, Bamako's oldest quartier. This event used to be annual, but it was suspended for nearly a decade because the previous *jelikuntigi*, Dyamoussa Soumano, became too old and infirm to host it. Dyamoussa may be recalled by some Mande specialists as one of the main informants mentioned in Solange de Ganay's book *Le Sanctuaire Kama Blon de Kangaba*. Paris: Nouvelles du Sud, 1995. It is claimed that Dyamoussa was born in 1882, which would have made him 110 at his death. He had been *jelikuntigi* since c. 1942.

Dyamoussa's son Bakari Soumano took over the honorary post of *jelikuntigi* when his father passed away in October, 1992. Bakari stressed to me that the position is not hereditary, but that he was chosen to succeed his father by Kela Bala Diabate of Kela.

In February 1997, Bakari Soumano reinstated the festivities. I happened to be in Bamako at the time (just back from filming with Oumou Sangare in Wasulu) and quite literally stumbled across the event while looking for a wedding party I had been invited to in another part of Niarela.

A couple of blocks of sandy street had been blocked off from traffic, and from the numbers of people, dignitaries, and musicians there, it was immediately apparent that this was not the wedding I was looking for but something on a far bigger scale. As I managed to get into the crowd, I could see that one whole side of the street was lined with several hundred jeliw: in fact, it looked like the "who's who" of the jeli community.

There was a chorus of some 100 women accompanied by dozens of balafons and dunduns, ngonis and guitars. Some of Mali's greatest female singers took it in turns to perform solos, including Nanténé Djé Kamissoko and Bako Dagnon. Every now and again a flank of elder jeliw, holding their swords high, danced from one end of the street to the other and back. I heard many songs which were new to me, or which I had not seen performed in context. There was an unforgettable moment when three jeliw in grand boufous suddenly kicked off their shoes and pulled gleaming swords out of their scabbards. Swirling them through the air, they wheeled around each other in a magnificently agile dance that sent the audiences running with shrieks of both terror and delight. Non-stop music and dance continued throughout the evening until just before midnight when the PA system was finally shut off and everyone scattered.

Some months later in London I was approached by a British TV company who were looking for ideas for a short sequence on Mansa Musa. They were thinking of



doing some kind of dramatised production with period costume, etc. But when they saw my photographs of the Niarela event, they were impressed with how much they were reminded of, for example, the account by Ibn Battuta of Mansa Sulayman's court -- despite wristwatches, microphones, electric guitars and other obvious signs of late 20th Century life. They came round to the idea of filming Niarela as an example of the continuity of the jeli tradition in the late 20th Century urban context, without suggesting any direct links to Mansa Musa.

After negotiations with Bakari Soumano, the jeli community, and the Niare elders, we arranged to film part of this year's Niarela festivities on the 7th of February. Furthermore, Bakari Soumano and Bako Dagnon -- a jelimuso from Kita who is known for her knowledge of Mande history -- also agreed to do a brief recitation of praises of Hijitaa Musa, or "Musa who went on the Pilgrimage" (as they preferred to call Mansa Musa).

As always, the film crew was running to a tight and hectic schedule, but by sheer luck they had obtained the services of MANSA member Sekou Berté of the Institut des Sciences Humaines. Some participants at the Mande Studies Conference in Bamako in 1993 met Sekou then, and quite a few, including David Conrad and Roderick McIntosh, have worked with him on various research projects. A Malian scholar who speaks excellent English, with an ebullient and warm character, Sekou Berté was the perfect go-between. With him on board everything went remarkably smoothly. In between dashing around Niarela, Berté and I managed to snatch a few moments of conversation. He sends greetings to MANSA members but unfortunately will be unable to attend the Banjul conference [eds' note: SB was encouraged to compete for travel funds but was busy with a project in Bamako that didn't allow him time to write a paper].

The festivities were on an even bigger scale than last year, and proceeded with the spirit and grace that is so characteristic of Mali. Between the immense charm and wisdom of Bakari Soumano, the hospitality of the Niare family, and the efficiency and savoir-faire of Berté, the film crew managed to get some really special and spectacular footage, which will go out as part of a ten-part series on the Millennium.

Now that it has been reinstated, the Niarela event is probably the biggest annual occasion to seen and hear Mali's finest jeliw within a "traditional" context, so look out for it next year, just after Ramadan. And if ever you need an English-speaking research assistant in Mali, Sekou Berté is the man.

### Jardin de Bolibana

Andreas Massing, working with GTZ in Mali reports that they have set up a "quiet official guesthouse" called Jardin de Bolibana in Bamako. Located behind the U.S. Embassy Annex, Massing says it has 5-6 air-conditioned rooms with bathrooms/showers, kitchen

use, fridge, TV, office (including internet access), rooftop bar with view over the Niger, and a showroom for crafts. It's within walking distance of the Palais de Congrès, the French Cultural Center, and the city center. The rates per person: 10-12,500 CFA. For reservations, tel/fax: 223-23-24-37 or e-mail: amss@pfa.malinet.ml

### ASA Annual Meeting: MANSA-Sponsored Panels

#### ISLAM AND YOUTH IN WEST AFRICA: IDENTITY, HISTORY AND EDUCATION

Co-chairs: Marie-Nathalie LeBlanc, Concordia University and Marie Miran, Tel-Aviv University  
Papers:

Marie Miran, Tel-Aviv University  
"The *dawa* in Côte d'Ivoire"

Marie-Nathalie LeBlanc, Concordia University  
"The 'Arabisation' of Muslim Identities Amongst Madersa Students in Côte d'Ivoire"

Discussant: Louis Brenner, SOAS, University of London

#### SECRETS AND LIES: THE SOCIAL LIFE OF KNOWLEDGE IN MANDE

Co-chairs: Jan Jansen, Leiden University, and Molly Roth, University of Pennsylvania  
Papers:

Julianne Freeman, Northern Kentucky University  
"Knowledge, Secrecy, and the Practice of Senior Womanhood Among the Bamana of the Beledugu (Mali)"

Dorothea Schulz, Free University of Berlin  
"Seductive Secretiveness: *jeliw* as Producers and Products of Ethnographic Knowledge"

Clark Speed, University of Washington  
"'I have knocked you down with power': Recursive Processes of Secrecy (Dissolution) Among Landogo (Lokko) of Northern Sierra Leone"

Molly Roth, University of Pennsylvania  
"The 'Secret' in Mande Historical Consciousness: Re-narrating the West"

Jan Jansen, Leiden University  
"The Mande Magical Mystery Tour: The 'Equipe Griaule' in Kangaba (Mali)"

Discussant: Patrick McNaughton

#### MANDE CULTURE IN THE NEW WORLD: ISSUES IN METHODOLOGY AND INTERPRETATION

Chair: Barbara Frank, SUNY-Stony Brook  
Papers:

Cynthia Schmidt, University of Washington  
"Crossing the Sea with a Sacred Song: Transformation and Resilience on Both Sides of the Atlantic"

Eric Charry, Wesleyan University  
"The Confluence of Mande, Western African, and New World Musics"



Konrad Tuchsherer, Boston University  
 "Mande Writing Systems and Systems of Graphic Symbolism: Sources for New World Graphic Symbols"  
 Barbara Frank, SUNY-Stony Brook  
 "Piercing the Fragments: Searching for Mande Presence in New World Artistic Traditions"

#### ISLAM IN WEST AFRICA: YOUTH, IDENTITY, AND EDUCATION

Chair: Marie-Nathalie LeBlanc, Concordia University  
 Papers:

Marie Miran, Michigan State University  
 "The 'Revolution' of Da'wa (Call to Islam): Strategies and Practices Within the Muslim Community of Abidjan in the 1990s"

Eduardo Costa Dias, Centro de Estudos Africanos, Lisbon

"Arabic Schools in Guinea-Bissau: The Way to 'Arabization' of Guinean Youth"

Ruediger Seesemann, Bayreuth University  
 "How to Attract the Youth: Lessons from a Case Study of Islamic Educational Institutions in Northern Nigeria"

Marie-Nathalie LeBlanc, Concordia University  
 "The Production of Islamic Identities Through Knowledge Claims in Bouake, Côte d'Ivoire"

Discussant: Louis Brenner, SOAS

#### FAMILIES, IDENTITIES AND POLITICS IN THE MANDE WORLD: A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE B. MARIE PERINBAM (MANSA Roundtable)

Chair: Stephen Wooten, University of California - Los Angeles

Panelists:

Jeanne Toungara, Howard University

Kassim Kone, SUNY-Cortland

Martin Klein, University of Toronto

Richard Warms, Southwest Texas State University

#### Book, Article, and Dissertation Releases

##### BOOKS:

1997. Mirjam de Bruijn & Han van Dijk (éds). *Peuls et Mandingues: Dialectique des constructions identitaires*. Préface de Jean-Loup Amselle. Leiden: Afrika-Studiecentrum and Paris: Éditions Karthala.  
 Première partie: Le Passé

1. "Les rapports entre la Diina peule du Maasina et les populations du Delta intérieur du Niger, vus au travers des traditions historiques et des fouilles archéologiques" by Anne Mayor
2. "Economic Enterprise in Fulbe and Mande Studies: Maasina and Samori" by Victor Azarya
3. "Islam, Ethnicity and Fulbe-Mande Relations in the Era of Umar Tal's *jihad*" by John Hanson  
 Deuxième partie: Le Passé dans le Présent
4. "'Animist'/Islamized Imaging in the Western Sudan: the Fulbe's 'Bambara' in the Bamako region, c. 1700-c. 1900" by B. Marie Perinbam
5. "La présence peule dans épopées du pays mandingue" by Stephen Belcher

6. "Domination politique et influences socioculturelles des Mandingues sur les Peuls du Fuladu (Kolda-Sénégal)" by Abdurahmane N'Gaïde
7. "Les derniers seront les premiers: peuplements et pouvoirs mandingues et peuls au Maasina (Mali)" by Claude Fay
8. "Les peuples mandingues dans un conte peul" by Caroline Angenent and Anneke Breedveld  
 Troisième partie: Le Présent
9. "*Pulaaku* et crise d'identité: le cas des *Fulbe wodeebe* (Peuls rouges) de la région lacustre de l'Issa-Ber au Mali" by Hallasy Sidibé, Mamadou Diallo and Coumbel Barry
10. "Antagonisme et solidarité: les relations entre Peuls et Dogons du Mali central" by Mirjam de Bruijn, Wouter E.A. van Beek and Han van Dijk
11. "The Fulbe *Shaykh* and the Bambara 'pagans': contemporary campaigns to spread Islam in Mali" by Benjamin F. Soares

1997. Lilyan Kesteloot and Bassirou Dieng. *Les épopées d'Afrique noire*. Préface de François Suard. Paris: Éditions Karthala and Éditions UNESCO.

Première partie: Épopée et théories littéraires

1. Le genre épique dans la tradition médiévale
2. Le genre épique africain
3. Les interrogations des critiques oralistes
4. Essai de typologie des épopées africaines
5. Les producteurs de l'épopée africaine
6. Énonciation et contexte de production: les exemples wolof et bambara
7. Épopée et pouvoir: l'exemple soudanais
8. Mythe et épopée dans l'Ouest sahélien  
 Deuxième partie: Récits épiques d'Afrique occidentale
1. Les épopées mandingues  
 Soundiata  
 L'épopée du Gabou  
 Les épopées de chasseurs  
 La geste de Ségou  
 L'épopée de Samory
2. Les épopées soninké  
 Le mythe de Wagadou et la fin de l'empire de Ghana  
 L'épopée des Koussa  
 L'épopée de Bakari Makhan Kamara
3. Les épopées wolof  
 L'épopée du Kajoor
4. La geste sérère  
 L'épopée de Sane Mone Faye
5. Les épopées peules  
 L'épopée de Samba Guéladio Diégui  
 La geste de Hambodédu du Kounari  
 L'épopée de Silâmaka et Poulorou  
 Le Pekâne  
 L'épopée d'El Hadj Omar
6. Les épopées zarma-songhaï-haoussa  
 La geste de Zabarkane, épopée zarma  
 L'épopée zarma d'Issa Korombé  
 Gama Gari Kanta et Agabba, épopée haoussa  
 Askia Mohamed Touré, épopée songhaï  
 Troisième partie: Récits épiques d'Afrique centrale et orientale



1. Les épopées claniques des régions forestières  
 Les épopées du Mvet des Bulu-Fang  
 Olendé, une épopée ombamba-téké  
 La saga d'Ozidi, épopée des Ijo  
 Les fils de Hitong, épopée bassa  
 Djeki la Njambè Inono. L'épopée douala  
 Lianja, l'épopée mongo-nkundo  
 Mwindo, l'épopée des Nyanga du Zaïre
  2. Les épopées royales et religieuses de la ceinture orientale  
 Les épopées swahili  
 Les épopées kinyarwanda  
 L'épopée zoulou: Chaka
1997. Tal Tamari. *Les castes de l'Afrique occidentale. Artisans et musiciens endogames*. Nanterre: Société d'ethnologie. Pp. 464.  
 Chapitre I: Les gens de caste dans la littérature ethnographique  
 Chapitre II: Repères chronologiques: l'apparition des premières castes  
 Chapitre III: La fondation des premières castes  
 Chapitre IV: Les développements ultérieurs  
 Chapitre V: Le cas du Sahara  
 What was originally the book's first chapter was published as and appendix at the publisher's insistence:  
 Appendice: Étude critique des sources  
 Also listed among the contents: Introduction, Conclusion, Notes, Bibliographie Sélective, Glossaire, Index, and Table des cartes et des tableaux  
 Order from: Société d'ethnologie, Maison René Ginouvès, Université de Paris X, 92023 Nanterre cedex; and from Editions Klincksieck, 8 rue de la Sorbonne, 75005 Paris. 270 FF plus shipping.
1997. Eric Silla. *People are not the Same: Leprosy and Identity in Twentieth-Century Mali*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.  
 Eric Silla adds a new dimension to the Social History of Africa Series through a compelling account of leprosy (Hansen's Disease) in colonial and post-colonial Mali. Unlike many studies of health and disease, *People are not the Same* draws on an extensive collection of life histories to elaborate the perspectives of patients themselves. It thereby weaves the transformation of "leper" identities with changes in medical and social responses to the disease. By situating seemingly local experiences of patients within the larger context of national and global change, Silla deepens our historical understanding of a wide range of issues including stigma, marginality, begging, and migration. He explains how the debilitating nature of leprosy interfered with one's ability to marry, farm, and participate in other facets of "normal" life. Leprosy sufferers became outcasts in their villages and often migrated to treatment centers in Bamako and other towns. At these centers, patients constructed self-conscious communities which empowered them socially and politically.  
 By privileging African voices in the experience of disease, Silla presents a moving portrait of leprosy

survivors that belies their stereotype as pitiable victims. His study reveals them instead as vibrant historical actors. It is an innovative contribution to the history of French colonialism and of socialism, dictatorship, and democracy in independent Africa. The example of leprosy in Mali also raises important questions about Western public health programs that emphasize biological cures with little regard for social rehabilitation.

1997. Katrin Pfeiffer (ed.). *Mandinka Spoken Art: Folk-Tales, Griot Accounts and Songs*. Köln: Rüdiger Köppe Verlag. Pp. 310. Volume 4 of the series Wortkunst und Dokumentartexte in Afrikanischen Sprachen, edited by Wilhelm J.G. Möhlig, ISBN 3-927620-63-7

According to an advertising flyer received from the editor, the main object of this volume is to present a selection of the rich cultural heritage of The Gambia by providing the written presentation of orally transmitted Mandinka texts and their English translation. This selection thus opens the opportunity for further studies in the fields of spoken art, grammar, sociology, ethnology, history, and musicology.

This volume contains a selection of twenty-eight folk-tales, three griot narratives and six songs arranged according to the genre to which the individual texts belong. Each text is preceded by a short introduction about its content together with data about the informant, place and date of recording. The presentation of the griot accounts is preceded by an alphabetic glossary with frequently occurring, culturally specific terms which remain untranslated in the English text.

1997. Vladimir Arseniev. *Bambara: gens dans l'économie de transition: essai sur l'organisation traditionnelle de l'activité économique*. Preface d'Igor Sledzewsky, Postface d'Alexandre Subetto. Saint-Petersburg: Académie des Sciences de la Russie, Musée d'Anthropologie et d'Ethnographie Pierre-le-Grand (Kunstskammer) Institute de l'Afrique. Pp. 260, 22 photographs, diagrams & charts.

Except for the facing title page in French, this book is in Russian.

1997. Jean-Loup Amselle. *Mestizo Logics: Anthropology of Identity in Africa and Elsewhere*. Translated by Claudia Royal. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

1997. Alusine Jalloh and David E. Skinner (eds.). *Islam and Trade in Sierra Leone*. Trenton: Africa World Press.

1998. Dolores Koenig, Tiéman Diarra, and Moussa Sow, with Ousmane Diarra, Makan Fofana, Yaouaga Félix Koné, Halimata Konaté Simaga, and Fatoumata Maiga Maiga. *Innovation and Individuality in African Development*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.



This book contributes to debates on how to improve development alternatives in West Africa, from the distinctive approach of anthropology--the analysis of local systems. Until now, theoretical frameworks for approaching African development have tended to overemphasize the structural factors that constrain development possibilities (including the colonial past and contemporary political-economic dependency). In this book the authors present a contemporary case study of migrant Malian farmers to illustrate how Africans themselves have tried to improve their lives--and are often successful in doing so.

Using concepts related to human agency (negotiation, innovation, and individual choice), the authors present Africans as active people who have attempted to remake the world in which they live. Introductory chapters situate the study in Malian history and demonstrate that the determination and desire to try new things was present as well in their ancestors' nineteenth-century precolonial states.

Finally, the authors offer practical suggestions about how to improve rural development programs so that more Africans will be able to benefit from positive possibilities for social change.

This volume will speak to anthropologists, international development specialists, and those interested in contemporary Africa, offering a counterweight to much of the contemporary literature that stresses problems rather than solutions.

6x9, c. 296 pp., maps, tables, figures, cloth ISBN 0-472-10894-8 \$39.60

#### ARTICLES:

1997. Sarah Brett-Smith, "The Mouth of the *Komo*." *Res: Anthropology and Aesthetics* 31 (Spring): 71-96.
1998. George Brooks, "Climate and History in West Africa" in *Transformations in Africa: Essays on Africa's Later Past*. Graham Connah (ed.) Leicester: Leicester University Press.
1997. Gérard Dumestre, "De l'école au Mali." *Nordic Journal of African Studies* (Helsinki) 6: 31-52.
1998. Barbara Hoffman, "Secrets and Lies: Context, Meaning and Agency in Mande." *Cahiers d'Études africaines*
1998. Barbara Hoffman, "Gender and Transformation in Africa." *Anthropology and Humanism* 22 (2).
1997. Allen Howard, "Trade and Islam in Sierra Leone, 18th-20th Centuries" in Alusine Jalloh and David E. Skinner (eds.). *Islam and Trade in Sierra Leone*. Trenton: Africa World Press, 21-64.
1998. Dolores Koenig and Tieman Diarra, "Les enjeux de la politique locale dans la réinstallation: stratégies foncières des populations réinstallées et hôtes dans la zone du barrage de Manantali." Autopart, "Communautes déracinées dans les pays du sud": *Cahiers des sciences humaines*, nouvelle série numero 5: 29-44.
1997. Robert Launay, "Spirit Media: The Electronic Media and Islam Among the Dyula of Northern Côte d'Ivoire." *Africa* 67 (3): 441-53.

1997. Ingse Skattum, "L'éducation bilingue dans un contexte d'oralité et d'exoglossie: théories et réalités du terrain au Mali." *Nordic Journal of African Studies* (Helsinki) 6: 74-106.

1997. Ingse Skattum, "Uder visningsprek og sprekundervisning i et 'frankofont' land. Om fransk og afrikanske sprek i grunnskolen i Mali." *Sprek og sprekundervisning* (Oslo) 3: 40-43.

1997. Ingse Skattum, "Flerspreklighet i en muntlig kontekst." *Det Norske Videnskaps-Akademis Erbok* (Oslo).

1996. Tal Tamari, "L'exégèse coranique en milieu mandingue. Rapport préliminaire sur une recherche en cours." *Islam et sociétés au sud du Sahara* 10: 43-79.

#### New & Renewed MANSA Members & Address Changes

- Mary Jo Arnoldi, Department of Anthropology NHB 112, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560
- Hamady Bocoum, Département de Préhistoire et de Protohistoire, IFAN, Université Cheikh Anta Diop, B.P. 206, Dakar, Senegal
- Sarah Brett-Smith (sponsor), 287A Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08540
- Liam Buckley, University of Virginia, Department of Anthropology, Charlottesville, VA 22903; e-mail: LMB4B@virginia.edu
- Stephan Bühnen (sponsor), Osterdeich 49, 28203 Bremen, Germany
- Todd Caschetta, 705 G. Laurel Walk, Goleta, CA 93117. Research: Ethnomusicology; drumming & dancing in The Gambia, potential synthesis issues in musical styles in Mandinka and Jola communities.
- José da Silva Horta, Departamento de História, Faculdade de Letras de Lisboa, Cidade Universitária 1699, Lisboa CODEX, Portugal
- Maria das Neves Silva, 53 rue Montcalm, 75018 Paris, France; Research: Conversion practices among the Balanta-mane in Guinea-Bissau, Islam, identity, religion
- Edda Fields, Fulbrighter, PAO/USIS, Conakry, U.S. Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20521-2110 (temporary address change)
- Cornelia Giesing (sponsor), c/o Instituto Nacional de Estudos e Pesquisa, INEP, C.P. 112, Bissau, Guinea-Bissau
- Marie Grosz-Ngaté (address change), Center for African Studies, P.O. Box 115560, 427 Grinter Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611; e-mail: mgngate@africa.ufl.edu
- David Henige (sponsor), Memorial Library, University of Wisconsin, 728 State Street, Madison, WI 53706
- Susan and Roderick McIntosh (sponsors), Anthropology Department, P.O. Box 1892, Rice University, Houston, TX 77251
- Katrin Pfeiffer, Völkerstrasse 25, 22765 Hamburg, Germany



Dan Reed (address change), 314 East 16th Street,  
Bloomington, IN 47408; e-mail:  
dbreed@indiana.edu  
Charles Riley, 14906 Parker Plaza, Omaha, NE 68154  
Claudia Roth, Zähringerstr. 12, CH-8001 Zurich,  
Switzerland  
Patrick Royer (address change), 5 rue des Trouveres,  
34170 Castelnau-Le-Lez, France; e-mail:  
proyer@tome.cbs.univ-montpl.fr  
Michael Schlottner, Oberstrasse 2, 56459 Willmenrod,  
Germany  
David Skinner (sponsor), Department of History, Santa  
Clara University, Santa Clara, CA 95053  
Joseph Tainter, Rocky Mountain Research Station,  
2205 Columbia SE, Albuquerque, NM 87106; e-  
mail: jtainter/rmrs\_albq@fs.fed.us  
Tal Tamari, CNRS 221, 27 rue Paul Bert, 94204 Ivry-  
sur-Seine, France  
Vera Viditz-Ward, Bloomsburg University, Department  
of Art, Old Science Building, Bloomsburg, PA  
17815; e-mail: viditz@planetx.bloomu.edu;  
Research: Historical and contemporary African  
photography

#### **Joining MANSA and Renewing Membership**

Regular and institutional membership \$10, students \$5, sponsoring membership \$25. Make check out to MANSA and (if you are joining) send your institutional affiliation and a brief description of your research interests to: Stephen Wooten, James S. Coleman African Studies Center, 10244 Bunche Hall, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1310. Members (other than sponsored African colleagues) will find the date on which their present membership expires recorded on their address labels. The Secretary-Treasurer will forward your up-dated address and research information to the President for publication in the newsletter.